

calamities, are signals of hope. They are evidence that a great vindication, a great destiny awaits you, and that satan, your accuser, will be confounded and cast out. Without these sharp thorns, these shut in experiences, these manacles, your soul was in danger of being smothered by the lethargy of the world and the lethargy of sin. Dreyfus says that the manacles saved his life. The cruelty which was intended by his enemies for his destruction became his salvation. Without them, he declares he would have died three years ago. They were the greatest mercy that could have been sent to him. They roused his soul from the lethargy of despair, and inspirited him with the vision of hope. The increased activity and malice of his foes bespoke the success of his friends.

"Whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth." The more bitterness mingled into your temporal life, the more evidence that your title to the eternal life is being surely perfected. Your calamities are God's mercies. They are the signals of beautiful hope, waving at you thru the rift clouds from out of the glory beyond.

#### GEMS FROM INGERSOLL

It has been truly said that Col. Ingersoll owed far more to the atmosphere of Christian civilization in which he was reared, than he was willing to give it credit for. The following paragraphs strikingly illustrate the ungrateful guest. That which was beautiful and sound in his moral nature is but a reflection of the most touching sentiments of Christianity, shining in vivid contrast to the vulgarities and blasphemies which he borrowed from Tom Paine and Voltaire :

#### Selfishness

I do not see how it is possible for a man to die worth millions of dollars in a city full of pain, where every day he sees the withered hand of want and the white lips of famine. I do not see how he can do it any more than he could keep a pile of lumber on the shore where hundreds and thousands were drowning in the sea.

#### Gold

Gold impoverishes. Only the other day I was where they wrench it from the miserly clutch of the rocks. When I saw the mountains treeless, shrubless, flowerless, without even a spear of grass, it seemed to me that gold has the same effect upon the soil that holds it as upon the man who lives and labors only for it. It affects the land as it does the man. It leaves the heart barren, without a flower of kindness, without a blossom of pity.

#### Love

Love is the only bow on life's dark cloud. It is the morning and the evening star. It shines upon the babe, and sheds its radiance on the quiet tomb. It is the mother of art, inspirer of poet, patriot and philosopher. It is the air and light of every heart; builder of every home, kindler of every fire on every hearth. It was the first to dream of immortality. It fills the world with melody, for

music is the voice of love. Love is the magician, the enchanter, that changes worthless things to joy, and makes right royal kings and queens of common clay. It is the perfume of that wondrous flower, the heart, and without that sacred passion we are less than beasts; but with it earth is heaven, and we gods.

#### A Mother's Love

Some day,

When others braid your thick brown hair  
And drape your form in silk and lace,  
When others call you "dear" and "fair,"  
And hold your hands and kiss your face,  
You'll not forget that far above  
All others' is a mother's love.

Some day,

'Mong strangers in far distant lands,  
In your new home beyond the sea,  
When at your lips are baby hands,  
And children playing at your knee—  
O then, as at your side they grow,  
How I have loved you you will know!

Some day,

When you must feel love's heavy loss,  
You will remember other years  
When I, too, bent beneath the cross,  
And mix my memory with thy tears,  
In such dark hours be not afraid;  
Within their shadow I have prayed.

Some day,

Your daughter's voice or smile or eyes,  
My face will suddenly recall;  
Then you will smile in sweet surprise,  
And your soul unto mine will call  
In that dear forgotten prayer,  
Which we at evening used to share.

Some day,

A flower, a song, a word may be  
A link between us strong and sweet;  
Ah! then, dear child, remember me!  
And let your heart to "mother" beat.  
My love is with you everywhere—  
You cannot get beyond my prayer.

Some day,

At longest it cannot be long,  
I shall with glad impatience wait,  
Amid the glory and the song,  
For you before the Golden Gate,  
After earth's parting and earth's pain,  
Never to part! Never again!

—Unidentified.

#### What Makes a Home

Ledger Monthly.

Lady Aberdeen, in a recent address before the National Council of the Women of Canada, at Toronto, said :

"What is that indefinable something that makes a home; that reveals itself in the books and pictures, in the arrangement of the rooms, in the preparation for a guest, in the tones of the children, in the expression of husband and wife? We cannot describe it, but we recognize it at once when it is present, and no house can be truly a home without some measure of it. We do not need just houses where we can eat and sleep healthily, but we want homes full of rest and peace and beauty and refreshment.

There is no prosperity outside of doing the will of God.

We never lack means for God's work; what we lack is motive.

## Our Young People

### This Day

Father, help me on my way,  
Day by day!  
Not too far I'd look ahead;  
Brief and plain the path I tread;  
Give me daily strength and bread—  
Thus I'll pray.

Just this day in all I do  
To be true!  
Little loaf takes little leaven—  
Duty for this day, not seven,  
That is all of earth and heaven,  
If we knew!

Ah, how needlessly we gaze  
Down the days,  
Troubled for next week, next year,  
Overlooking now and here!  
"Heart, the only sure is near,"  
Wisdom says.

Step by step, and day by day,  
All the way!  
So the pilgrim soul wins thru,  
Finds each morn the strength to do  
All God asks of me or you—  
This: obey.

—James Buckham.

### AN EARLY CHRISTIAN ENDEAVORER

2 Tim. 3:10-17

(A meeting with the Junior Society)

Topic for Sept. 10.

A great many Sunday-schools thru-out the country have adopted what they call the "Cradle Roll." Whenever a new baby in the community is old enough, the consent of the mother is obtained to enlist it on the Cradle Roll. Its name and date of birth is put down and the promise obtained that when it is one year old the mother will bring it to the Sunday-school with a penny; when it is two years old it is brought again with two pennies, when three with three pennies and when four years old the mortgage is foreclosed and baby is left in the Sunday-school. This unique idea is bringing early into the Sunday-school many who might otherwise escape it entirely. It is indicative of a better time coming when the children are thus captured for Christ in their youth.

The world is slowly coming to realize the powerful effect of heredity upon children and the necessity of virtue in the parents if it is to be developed in the children. Prof. Bryan, the great psychologist, says every bit of wild oats sown in youth takes root in the backbone and grows all thru the body. Such truths from such authorities ought to do away with the idiotic idea that children should be allowed to do as they please and learn from their own experience to be good. Far better it is to compel good sowing so that the life shall be bound by the power of good habits when the day of battle and the time of service comes. There is no more blessed or strategic work than the training of children in the service of the kingdom. They should be given a large part in the service of this meeting.

#### SCRIPTURE LIGHT

1. Children a heritage of the Lord, Ps. 127:3.
2. All to be children in the kingdom, Matt. 18:3.
3. Children to be taught, Prov. 22:6 and 29:15.
4. An early obligation, Eccl. 12:1.
5. It is good to serve in youth, Sam. 3:27.
6. Children to learn God's word, 1 Pet. 2:2; Deut. 6:7 and 31:12.
7. Children to follow Christ, John 13:15.
8. A parent's duty, Eph. 6:4.
9. Jesus invites the children, Matt. 19:14.
10. Let the children praise the Lord, Ps. 148:12, 13.
11. All should help the children, Mark 9:37.
12. Children known by their doings, Prov. 20:11.

#### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How early can a child be an Endeavorer?